PUBLIC NOTICE

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION'S CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
will hold a Workshop to present preliminary maps of "Geologic and Geomorphic Features Related to Landsliding" and "Relative Landslide Potential" for the Elk River Watershed, Humboldt County, California
on
Wednesday, November 19, 2003
@ 1:00 p.m.

Workshop Location:
Humboldt County Agricultural Center
5630 South Broadway
Eureka, CA
Phone: (707) 441-5742

The California Department of Conservation's California Geological Survey (CGS) will conduct a public workshop at the above listed time and location. The workshop is to present the preliminary maps, *Geologic and Geomorphic Features Related to Landsliding* and *Relative Landslide Potential, Elk River Watershed, Humboldt County, California* and to receive comments regarding those maps.

This watershed-specific study updates the landslide information from the 1980's Division of Mines and Geology Watersheds Mapping Project that was conducted on a 1:24,000 quadrangle basis. This study incorporates current available information from sources such as aerial photograph reviews, published and unpublished reports, individual Timber Harvest Plans and field reconnaissance.

When completed, the maps and associated GIS databases will be available for land use planning and environmental evaluation purposes. Neither the transmittal of this data by the CGS nor its use by various lead agencies constitutes a land-use decision or an authorization for development activity.

Two weeks prior to the workshop, preliminary maps will be posted in pdf format on the CGS website at www.consrv.ca.gov/CGS. During the workshop, interested parties will have the opportunity to review paper copies of the maps and comment on the data presented on the maps and in a written summary. Those wishing to submit written comments after the workshop, may do so within 15 days following the workshop. Please send written comments to:

Gerald Marshall, Senior Engineering Geologist
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2120 Campton Road, Suite D
Eureka, CA 95503
Tel: (707) 441-5742
E-mail: gmarshal@consrv.ca.gov

Following the workshop and comment period, the maps and accompanying databases will be completed and published in electronic format as CGS CD 2003-03. Once the maps are completed, the workshop participants may wish to obtain copies of the final published version of these maps, *Geologic and Geomorphic Features Related to Landsliding,* and *Relative Landslide Potential, Elk River Watershed, Humboldt County, California* from:

Department of Conservation
California Geological Survey
Geologic Information and Publications Office
801 K Street, MS 14-33
Sacramento, CA 95814-3532
(916) 445-5716

Geologic and Geomorphic Features Related to Landsliding, Elk River Watershed, Humboldt County, California

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This map presents current in-depth information on landsliding in Humboldt County's Elk River Watershed. This watershed was originally included in two previous 1:24,000 scale quadrangle maps under the Geology and Geomorphic Features Related to Landsliding, Watersheds Series Maps, published by the Department of Conservation's (DOC) Division of Mines and Geology (DMG) In the 1980's. The information from those two maps was checked against the currently available information, amended and incorporated as appropriate into the current mapping project along with newly derived data either from sources unavailable at the time of the 1980s mapping or pertaining to events occurring since that time.

Data used in the compilation of this map included stereoscopic review of aerial photographs from 1940-1941, 1948, 1954, 1963, 1981, 1984, 1988, 1996 and 2000. Data from other sources was checked as possible through review of these aerial photographs and on-the-ground site visits. Information from the earlier DMG Watersheds Series Maps was checked against the information obtained from these photos and if necessary, modified in light of the more complete photo record data. Information from consultant's geologic reports was similarly checked against the photo record and on the ground through CGS attendance of Pre-Harvest Inspections (PHIs). New information obtained through PHIs and other field reconnaissance and survey was also incorporated as appropriate.

Relative landslide potential was determined through assignment of relative susceptibility to the various geologic units and landform features, including slope gradient and morphology, presence of pre-existing landsliding and location on or adjacent to key features such as streamsides or older landslide scarp and toe areas. The geologic units and features were weighted through appraisal of observed landslide frequencies on each.

The resultant maps and accompanying databases should be useful in assessing past and future land-use impacts. Land-use planning will be facilitated through identification of areas of greater landslide potential where site-specific studies and enhanced protection measures may be warranted. Landslides are identified by process and by activity, including the photo year on which they were first observed. The photo record encompasses 60 years of land-use including ranching and timber harvest management practices from railroad inclines and steam donkeys through unregulated ground-based tractor operations, implementation and evolution of the California Forest Practice Rules and adoption of the Pacific Lumber Company's Habitat Conservation Plan.